

The Times

THE TIMES COMPANY.

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1902.

PREACHING THE GOSPEL.

The Southern Churchman is doing the cause of religion good service in urging preachers to eschew secular topics and to preach the Gospel and the Gospel only from their pulpits.

From the standpoint of the layman, we have always thought that more harm than good was accomplished by the discussion of purely secular topics from the sacred desk, and we have been surprised that sensible preachers and good preachers should have made this departure. We are not surprised at anything that the sensational preachers do, for their object seems to be to draw crowds and to make a stir. But that consecrated preachers whose sole aim is to promote the cause of religion should turn aside from Gospel preaching to the discussion of questions of the day, political and otherwise, is to us inexplicable. First of all, a preacher is on a perfectly safe ground when he confines his preaching to Bible questions, to questions of religion. His commission is plain and unmistakable, and he can have no doubt that he is discharging his sacred duty when he preaches the Gospel. It is at least questionable whether or not he is authorized by the Lord to discuss outside topics.

Again, the preacher is on safe ground when he preaches the Gospel, because there can be no two opinions among Christians as to the fundamental principles of Christianity, and there can be no doubts raised and no discussions and no dissensions in his congregation when he confines himself to these. But when he undertakes to discuss worldly topics he necessarily raises disputes, and while some will agree with him others will disagree, while some will be drawn to him others will be turned away.

Moreover, as the Southern Churchman well says, preachers are not supposed to speak with authority on current topics which confront the nation. They cannot study the Bible as they should and attend to the arduous duties of pastor and yet find time to study and comprehend complicated questions about which the most astute students of politics and political economy are disagreed. But a preacher who undertakes to discuss such questions without thorough knowledge will necessarily shake the confidence of his hearers who do not agree with him in his good judgment. A preacher should always speak as one in authority, as one who knows the doctrine which he preaches, as one who represents the great God of the universe. He can speak with such authority and as the mouth-piece of the true and living God when he preaches the truths of the Bible.

There was once in the city of Richmond a great preacher who was famed for his knowledge of the Bible and his knowledge of theology. When he spoke on these subjects he spoke as an oracle. He was thoroughly informed, he was thoroughly careful as to the statements of fact which he made, and those who knew him knew that when he made a statement it was a fact and could be absolutely relied upon. But on a certain occasion this preacher announced that he would deliver a series of sermons on secular topics, and a great crowd went to hear him. He had not proceeded far in the discourse, however, when men who were informed realized that the preacher was not informed, and that they knew more than he about the topic which the preacher had undertaken to discuss. The sermon was a flat failure, and the preacher realized that he had made a mistake, soon abandoned the whole wretched business and went back to the preaching of the Gospel, to which he confined himself to his dying day.

Finally, we remark that the great purpose of a preacher should be to make men and women fall in love with the Gospel, with the church, and with the preaching of God's ministers. It is his duty to give men and women a taste for religious topics and to bring them to church, in a religious frame of mind. But if he discusses secular topics, especially in an engaging and fascinating and sensational way, he will necessarily turn the thoughts of his people away from religion and give them a taste for secular preaching rather than for Gospel preaching. It is just here, we believe, that the greatest harm is done in discussing other than purely Bible topics from the pulpit.

ADVANCEMENT OF THE NEGRO.

A correspondent of the New York Evening Post, in noting the fact alleged that in Alabama rather more than 42 per cent. of the colored population either own or rent farms, says that this shows what a tremendous stride the negroes have made since they were given their freedom.

"That a race tossed into the maddest of free life," he adds, "without any means of education, no money and precious little morals and religious aid, could have reached this point, is to its credit and to the credit of the leaders of that race who have helped to bring about this measure of success."

This would imply that the negro slaves were without any sort of training when they were freed, that they had had no education either mental or moral, and that they were totally unfitted for any sort of industry. Never a greater mistake. We talk about the uneducated negro before the war and the educated negro of the present day, utterly ignoring the fact that the negro slaves were well educated. It is true that they did

not have much "book learning," but book learning is not the whole or even the best of education. The negro slaves were well educated in good manners, and in good morals. They were taught to be polite and to be truthful and to be obedient, and more than that they were taught to work. The men were taught to till the soil and the women were taught to spin and weave and sew and cook and do house work and odd jobs around the premises, and it was hard to find an intelligent negro man who was not a good farmer or an intelligent negro woman who was not a good housekeeper.

The well-trained negro slave and his wife were splendidly equipped when the war closed to take charge of a small farm. They knew how to raise crops, they knew how to make their families at home, they knew how to make fabrics for their clothes and how to spin and weave and how to make the clothes, and many of the men knew how to make shoes as the women knew how to knit socks and make hats. There was no sufficient reason why such a couple, especially if they had several half-grown children, as was usually the case, should not take a small farm, and pay the rent, and make a support and save the greater part of the money crop from year to year. Many such couples raked together a little money and bought a piece of land on part credit, built a house with their own hands and then from year to year paid off the debt. There is nothing surprising about it. They were, as we have said, well trained for such work, and it was only a matter of industry for them to succeed.

But there is another suggestion in the remark of this New York correspondent which is particularly interesting to the Southern. This Northern correspondent intimates that the negro, when first freed, was utterly unprepared to meet the issues of life, yet the Northern people seemed to think that this same negro was thoroughly prepared for the duties of citizenship and so clothed him with the right of franchise.

There is something in this for the Northern people to think about. The negroes were well-trained in industry, but they had no training whatever in affairs of government and knew as little about how to vote as sucking babes.

THE BEST IN MUSIC.

The love of the best in music, like the love of high art in every direction, is a matter of cultivation and development. This applies on less to the community than to the individual. There must be more or less love of the beautiful in art inherent in every individual which only awaits development. For, as Emerson says, "Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it with us, or we find it not."

Our Wednesday Club was organized and exists for the purpose of becoming a factor in the cultivation and development of the musical taste and appreciation of the people of this community. Its steadfast purpose directed to that end alone has preserved its life, and whatever measure of success it has achieved has been through the individual love of its members for the beautiful in the art of music.

But the club has reached a period in its history when it must take an account, as it were, of its work. Its apparent success has been gratifying, but, through no fault in the management of the club, the measure of that success should have been much greater. The active membership should have been at the least twice as large as it has been. All the local singers, we are sorry to say, have not been and are not fully alive to the benefits and advantages to them individually and to the community at large, which membership in the club affords them. A natural ambition to excel on their own account, coupled with a commendable local pride in the artistic progress of their city, should have caused them to unite their strength and adhesion to the objects and purposes of the club long ago.

Then again the annual list of subscribers to the festival concerts ought long since to have doubled itself. In a progressive community of a hundred thousand there ought to be found at the least five hundred of its citizens cheerfully to respond to the club's invitation to become its regular patrons. No one can deny that these concerts, equal to any rendered anywhere in this country, besides furnishing the most transcending and healthful entertainment, do at the same time materially benefit the city in many ways. They at least furnish one of the badges of its culture, advertise its progressive spirit and artistic taste far and wide over this broad land, and breathe a healthy and uplifting atmosphere at home.

The next annual festival of music marks the tenth one in the history of the club. Is it too much to ask that the event be celebrated by rallying all of the local vocal talent of the city to the club's ranks, and by enrolling five hundred members to its list of patrons?

TROUBLES OF THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

There is no use disguising the fact that President Castro of the Venezuelan republic is putting the Monroe doctrine to a severe and, from our point of view, an uncomfortable test. Manifestly, he is trying to shield himself behind our skirts, and at this writing it looks like the United States government is in a position of embarrassment, to say the least. Our government has never undertaken to exercise guardianship over the South American republics, has never undertaken to protect them, nor to be responsible for them in any business transactions that they might have with other nations. The Monroe doctrine was declared for our own protection. It was not deemed wise to permit European nations to colonize on this side of the ocean and introduce their form of government, and we so declared.

But now that Great Britain and Germany have attempted to coerce Castro, and now that Castro refuses to be coerced, a new phase of the Monroe doctrine is presented. Clearly, Great Britain and Germany did not undertake these measures without the consent of the United States, but it is said that the administration had no idea that these powers would go to the extent of capturing and destroying the Venezuelan navy. It was not understood, so the reports say, that

Great Britain and Germany were going to make war upon Venezuela. Yet it is conceded that they have already made war upon the republic, no matter how they may protest to the contrary. They have undertaken to collect their debt against the Venezuelan debtors by seizing the custom houses. But Castro resists this attempt, and threatens to resist it by force of arms, and if he refuses point blank to settle the claim and abolishes the custom duties the allied forces will have either to retire in chagrin or else do what is the custom on the other side, seize a part of Venezuela's territory. Yet if such seizure is made it will be in defiance of the Monroe doctrine, which we are sworn to defend.

In a crisis like that what would be the attitude of the United States government? We should be forced by Castro to aid and abet and protect him in refusing to pay his debts, and would that not make us responsible? If we refused to let Great Britain and Germany collect an acknowledgment debt against the Venezuelan people, a debt guaranteed by the Venezuelan government, these nations, however friendly they may be to us, would then not hold us responsible? This is not merely a matter of dollars and cents. A principle is involved, and a case will be involved in such a principle. We do not believe, of course, that there is going to be war, but it all goes to show that this same Monroe doctrine is liable to bring on war, and the wonder is that it has not already done so.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

We are sorry to see that a bill has been introduced in the House of Delegates to compel parents to send their children to school. Everybody knows that The Times is in favor of education. We have done what we could to advance the cause of popular education in Virginia, and we should like to see every child at school for at least eight months in the year. But when it comes to forcing parents by law to send their children to school and fining them when they do not send them; when it comes to sending a police officer around to the homes of the people to see their children out and march them off to school in defiance of the wishes of the parent, we enter our solemn protest. We do not believe that the liberty-loving people of Virginia are ready for any such autocratic measures, and we hope that the bill will be defeated by an overwhelming vote.

"A WITNESS FOR CHRIST."

(Selected for The Times.)
"He was not that Light, but came that he might bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light which lighteth every man, which cometh into the world."—John, 1:8.

Of whom does the writer speak? Of John the Baptist, the immediate forerunner of the Messiah. He was the first to recognize and proclaim the advent of the long expected King.

He was one of those men who give an impetus for new thought to their generation, and help men to see clearly what they might otherwise only dimly understand.

He was able in a measure to know our Lord well. He was His cousin and had heard, perhaps known Him from His childhood. John was also in a position to know what it involved to be the Messiah.

By the very circumstance that he had himself been mistaken for the Messiah, he was driven to define in his own mind the true, unmistakable characteristic marks of the Messiah. Nothing could so clearly lead him to apprehend the difference between himself and the Christ.

A star may seem close to the top of the mountains, when seen from the lowland moor; but seen from the mountain top it is recognized as infinitely above one. John was on the mountain top.

John was sent from God. Ordinary biography begins at another point. But in this case parentage, home, training, are omitted altogether and the very beauty of God and His message lights up the whole man.

Men have different ways of looking at themselves. In some cases they look downward to the "mire and the clay." In others they claim the dignity and privileges of the sons of God. The influence of this view upon the use of strength and life must be intense and salutary. We degrade life when we omit God from its plan.

What is our view of life? Have we but a mere physical existence, or are we messengers of the Most High?

God reveals Himself to us, little by little, as we are able to bear the light. John came that he might "bear witness to that Light." There had been a long and wonderful procession of witnesses to that Light from Moses even until John, who was the last of the illustrious line.

John as a professed Saviour would have been weak, and even contemptible; but as a witness he was a burning and shining light. He was as the morning star heralding the glorious dawn.

God is pleased to speak to us by men like ourselves. John was a great man, but he was only a man. He was sent from God bearing His message to the expectant world around him. God gave him both his mission, his message, his instruction and his credentials. He "was not that Light." His was but a temporary ray. The brightest light which the hand of man can enkindle is palely instantly when the sun shineth in his strength. Beautiful, indeed, is that noonday light when shining alone, and not beautiful only, but precious exceedingly to men, who without it would be in darkness. Yet could it speak it would say: "I am but the spark of another fire; your admiration of my splendor will cease when you see the Sun."

Such is the speech of the most luminous of men. Our light is lunar, according to the measure of our capacity. It sheds His glory through our life. "That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world." As the sun shines for every man, so Jesus Christ lives for every man. The lamp in the house belongs to the householder; the lamp in the street is a local convenience, but the sun pours its morning and its noonday rays into every valley and into the humblest home. That is the true light,

the freehold of every man, the private property of none.

And every man knows that the sun is the true light—feels it to be such—and without hesitation affirms it to be supreme. There is no debate in the mind of any as to whether the sun or the moon is the light of the world.

It is so in the light of Jesus Christ. When the eyes of men are opened to see Him in all His grace, wisdom and sympathy, the heart is satisfied and every rival light is lost in His infinite splendor. What have you done about telling others of this light? Why will you not bear witness for your Lord and Master? Why do you daily receive His manifold blessings and continue dumb?

Is He your Master? Do you love His name? Do you imbibed His spirit? Do you display His love? These questions I beg you to answer as in His sight.

You are not ashamed of any other master or teacher you have; why be ashamed of your King? You speak of those who taught you to paint, to sing, to read, to speak, to write; do you ever mention His name, who loved you and gave Himself for you?

We took occasion several days ago to correct some misstatements more or less personal to the owner of The Times, which appeared in a special from Washington to the Richmond Dispatch. In its issue of yesterday the Dispatch makes editorial reference to the subject and fairly and generously gives a summary of the corrected statement made by The Times. We thank our contemporary for this courtesy.

Oh! how it crushes our pride to have the bright and sparkling things we say copied and commented upon by our contemporaries, and credited to some other paper.—South Boston News.

But so many "bright and sparkling" paragraphs are credited to The News that our contemporary ought, in generosity, to let the other fellow have the pickings.

The expected is beginning to happen as the mercury in the thermometer seeks the bottom. Cool riots are reported in several cities. Small and as yet insignificant they are, but there may be more trouble ahead.

Duty is duty, conscience is conscience, right is right, and wrong is wrong, whatever sized type they may be printed in. "Large" or "small" are not words for the vocabulary of conscience.—Alexander MacLaren.

"I never told a lie in my life and I could not tell one if I tried," declared Attorney N. Albertson, a former rabbi, in a Chicago court. And yet he is trying to succeed as a lawyer in Chicago.—Boston Globe.

The life of man upon this fair earth is made up for the most part of little pains and little pleasures. The great wonder flowers bloom but once in a lifetime.—Longfellow.

It is difficult to say who do you the most mischief, enemies with the worst intentions or friends with the best.—Bulwer.

Between the great things that we cannot do and the small things we were not to the danger is that we shall do nothing.—Adolphe Monod.

Several large size stockings are already hanging about the White House and a consignment or two may fall into them.

Mexico, it is said, will soon follow Spain in the adoption of the gold standard. There is hope for Lincoln, Nebraska, yet.

The winter weather is just winchier enough for good health and at the same time not to pay a freeze out game.

Service to our fellow-men should be made, not a substitute for piety, but an expression of it.—Josiah Strong.

Few people disparage a distinguished ancestry except those who have none of their own.—J. Hawes.

No well informed person will write it Xmas, unless laziness be a family weakness.

Miss Helen Gould could give Franklin Krupp some interesting suggestions as to how to handle her great wealth.

This and one more Sunday before Christmas.

From the Church Papers.

When Jesus Christ said, "And I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me," He meant that His gospel, the truth concerning Himself, should be armed with an attractive power through all possible powers. And His prediction has been verified through every century since it was uttered. No changes in social conditions, no intellectual advancement of the race, have in the least degree abated the attractiveness of that gospel, which is at once "the wisdom of God and the power of God."—Richmond Christian Advocate.

Many remarkable instruments of delicacy and precision have in recent years been invented—a prometer, which can measure the heat from a candle a mile away; instruments so delicate that the approach of a ship or an iceberg may be detected long before either is in sight; mechanism where vibrations of messages from across the sea must be gathered up and registered and read! Wonderful progress have we made in the mechanical arts, in these instruments of precision. But what of the power to catch the message of spiritual import sent in wireless telegraphy from the heavens? Are we sensibly keeping pace with scientific and material progress since the days when

DO WE HEAR THE VOICE?

Why Give your shoes to a cobbler to have half-soled when you can have it done at the Electric Power Shoe Factory and resoled just like new. No big ugly sewing around soles like a brogue. No nails or pegs. Whole soles, \$1; men's half-soles, 75c.; ladies', 60c. Phone, New, 1232; Old, 2657. Will send anywhere repair and return.

W. E. DREW & CO.

RICKETY CHILDREN.

Loose joints, bow legs, big head, and soft bones—mean rickets. It is a typical disease for the best workings of Scott's Emulsion.

For the weak bones Scott's Emulsion supplies those powerful tonics the hypophosphites. For the loss of flesh Scott's Emulsion provides the nourishing cod-liver oil.

Scott's Emulsion corrects the effects of imperfect nourishment and brings rapid improvement in every way to rickety children.

Send for Free Sample. No. 10, N. V.

Samuel heard the call of God in the silent moments of the night? Do we hear the still small voice of God that now speaks to us, or are our ears duller than they were in days gone by—Religious Herald.

This last month is very much like the last years of life. The flowers of youth have fallen, the days of toil and endeavor are ended. We come back from travel and gather in the home. From the activity of the outdoor life we come in to that which is quiet and restful, to count up the gains and the losses, and review the wisdom and the folly of the past. What remains is the hope of a new year, the hope of a new and unending life. Would it not be a fine thing if each December should remind us to look up and away to Immortality?

What a great and splendid hope it is, Immortality! There is a wild flower called Life Everlasting, and others, of finer grade, we have been told to call Immortelles. In the forest and on the lawn are some trees that will not drop their leaves, but grow persistently more green, and we call them evergreens. They are given in December to tell us of another year and another spring, and in our thoughtful moods to spell the promise of Immortality.—Central Presbyterian.

Jesus Christ stands as ready to-day to drive the unclean spirit out of a man as when He walked in Galilee. His is a great salvation. THE DRUNKARD'S HOPE. It is His own word. "Him that cometh unto Me, I will in no wise cast out."

Many a man has looked to Him for strength and found that He failed him. And gradually the sudden brain grew clear again, its very character and substance changing back to healthy tissue, and with the renewed instrument the mind has gone about its old work and the conscience has been restored to right and truth and the love of God.—Presbyterian Standard.

The life which earth can satisfy is not the overflowing life. Earthly preoccupations shrink soul capacity. Content comes only from that which is higher and better than ourselves. The bread that satisfies is the bread of heaven. Only God can fill a human soul to overflowing. But that overflowing will be for the joy of our homes, the blessing of our neighbors, the enlightening and transforming of the world.—The Congregationalist.

That A. H. K. King Bill. Dr. Ware will probably now hear the last of his anti-kissing bill. The papers continue to fire at him. Here are a few more sample shots:

South Boston News: Dr. Ware has certainly created a stir. His bill is impracticable. No law can be enforced against public sentiment.

Henry Bulletin: The Crawford-Campbell case is "up" in the Legislature. This investigation and the anti-kissing bill seem to be the star features of the proceedings so far.

Fredericksburg Star: Wonder if our old friend, Peter Barksdale, wants to "tote" a pistol for the purpose of driving off any officer who might try to arrest him for kissing without a certificate.

Leesburg Record: Of course, the anti-kissing bill will receive the approbation of the "old maids."

Newport News Times-Herald: Dr. Ware will probably never be known as the mistletoe statesman.

Remarks About Richmond.

Tidewater Democrat: Perhaps the largest baby ever seen in Richmond died in that city a few days ago—it was a baby elephant.

Norfolk Virginian-Pilot: Richmond is on the verge of shutting down her street cleaning department for lack of fun.

Richmond has one great advantage over Norfolk in this matter—she is so holy that the winter rains will wash part of the debris into the "Jeeems," while Norfolk is so fat she is convalescent.

Reduced Xmas Prices. Solitaire Diamonds, Diamonds and Pearls, Diamonds and Rubies, Diamonds and Sapphires, Diamonds and Opals, Signet Rings.

Reduced Xmas prices will talk here this week, and talk eloquently! Our ads in last week's papers, offering greatly reduced prices on Watches, Diamonds, Diamond Jewelry, and Rings, have been taken advantage of by many Xmas gift buyers! In fact, they stirred up business generally.

Here are some more suggestions for gifts, at prices reduced:

Formerly \$30.00, \$5.00. Formerly \$12.00, \$3.00. Formerly \$20.00, \$2.00. Formerly \$40.00, \$4.00. Formerly \$60.00, \$6.00.

Formerly \$10.00, \$1.00. Formerly \$15.00, \$1.50. Formerly \$25.00, \$2.50. Formerly \$35.00, \$3.50.

Formerly \$45.00, \$4.50. Formerly \$55.00, \$5.50. Formerly \$65.00, \$6.50. Formerly \$75.00, \$7.50.

Formerly \$85.00, \$8.50. Formerly \$95.00, \$9.50. Formerly \$105.00, \$10.50. Formerly \$115.00, \$11.50.

Formerly \$125.00, \$12.50. Formerly \$135.00, \$13.50. Formerly \$145.00, \$14.50. Formerly \$155.00, \$15.50.

Formerly \$165.00, \$16.50. Formerly \$175.00, \$17.50. Formerly \$185.00, \$18.50. Formerly \$195.00, \$19.50.

Formerly \$205.00, \$20.50. Formerly \$215.00, \$21.50. Formerly \$225.00, \$22.50. Formerly \$235.00, \$23.50.

Formerly \$245.00, \$24.50. Formerly \$255.00, \$25.50. Formerly \$265.00, \$26.50. Formerly \$275.00, \$27.50.

Formerly \$285.00, \$28.50. Formerly \$295.00, \$29.50. Formerly \$305.00, \$30.50. Formerly \$315.00, \$31.50.

Formerly \$325.00, \$32.50. Formerly \$335.00, \$33.50. Formerly \$345.00, \$34.50. Formerly \$355.00, \$35.50.

Events of the Week Briefly Reviewed.

The past week brought the first real touch of winter and the extent of the coal famine was thereby brought prominently to view. A cold wave struck the country early in the week. At many points in the northern section it was colder than it has been in any December for many years. In the neighborhood of Saratoga, N. Y., it was the coldest December weather they have had since 1851 and in New England the mercury went lower than it has been at any time since 1886. There was snow generally throughout the North. In Virginia it was quite cold for two days, but soon turned warm again, and we had no snow except in the mountains.

Now comes the story that J. Pierpont Morgan has been under way for the consolidation of all the anthracite coal properties, including the coal-carrying roads. The plan is said to be to buy out the independent miners and consolidate their properties with the organization operators and their roads, thus forming a combine that will astonish the world and throw the shipping combine completely in the shade. It is said that Mr. Morgan stands ready to put four hundred million dollars behind this scheme.

The day after Mr. Thomas B. Reed's death The Times said editorially that he left politics a poor man and in the short time he lived in New York he became comparatively rich. This statement was questioned at the time, but it now develops that Mr. Reed's estate is valued at \$200,000 and that he saved this out of his earnings in Wall Street. His income, it is said that he lived on that and put aside his Wall Street earnings for the winter rainy day. His reputation for boldness and nerve was the capital he operated on.

The news comes from Washington that the Senate will not take so kindly to the bill which the House hurriedly passed, appropriating \$500,000 for the expenses of the Annapolis Commission. Some very important amendments will doubtless be made to the bill before it gets through the Senate. The leading members of that body have expressed the opinion that Judge Grey, General Wilson and Colonel Wright already receive salaries from the government they should receive nothing additional except their actual expenses. As for the other members of the commission, their compensation, the Senate thinks, should be determined by the government, and it is to be glad to serve without pay, in view of the prestige which appointment as members of the commission has given to them.

The Federal courts are trying to make it plain that the United States mails must not be interfered with in any manner whatsoever, and that he who presumes to retard or in any way hinder the carrying of the same will be quickly punished. On Tuesday last in New Orleans the grand jury of the United States Court, acting under the instructions of the judge, indicted Ben Commons, president of the street-car men's union, and sixteen other members for interfering with the mail and for obstructing the delivery of mail. The grand jury of the strike the men by violence prevented the United States mail car from leaving the railway company's turn. Afterward the mail cars were permitted to run, although the other cars were tied up for two weeks.

The Japanese Minister at Washington has informed our government that he has heard some things about Mr. J. Barrett, recently appointed United States Minister to Japan, that lead him to believe that Mr. Barrett will be persona non grata at the Japanese capital. It seems that Mr. Barrett is a politician of the boisterous and loud-talking kind, one who believes or thinks that as long as the United States will ere long gobble up the whole world, including Japan. The trouble seems to be that he has been expressing himself along these lines so freely that his remarks have reached sensitive Japanese ears, and hence the trouble he finds himself in. Mr. Barrett seems to have failed to note the career of General Briggs.

The annual meeting of the National American Red Cross Association, which was held in Washington in the early part of the week, was so quiet and completed its work in such short order it failed to attract the attention on the part of the public good work in the interest of humanity. Miss Clara Barton presided at all times. Miss Clara Barton presided. The by-laws were amended with a view to the formation of State organizations and enlargement of the membership. Miss Barton was elected president for life, and Mrs. John A. Logan vice-president. Other officers elected were: Counselor, ex-Secretary of State, William O. Oliver; Treasurer, William J. Flather; Secretary, Samuel W. Briggs.

During the past week the stock market has been in a disturbed state. The bottom seems to have just dropped out of everything, and in many instances prices went almost as low as they did in the long to be remembered May panic of 1891. There was almost a panic as serious as the one mentioned in that it is most remarkable fact that this panic, for panic it really is, and may become yet more serious to many holders of securities, is a prosperity panic, and due solely to good times. It is, of course, directly due to the money squeeze, but what causes the tightness of money? Simply that the winter rains will wash part of the debris into the "Jeeems," while Norfolk is so fat she is convalescent.

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